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DRAFT

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr.  
Special Assistant, Intelligence  
Department of State

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Deputy Director/Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: Foreign Publications

1. Your designees, assigned by your letters of March 25 and April 3 to study problems respecting foreign publications, have surveyed the subject in the light of your correspondence and with due regard for current developments in the Department and the Agency.

2. We respectfully submit our joint recommendations as expressed in the attached staff study.

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17 April 1953

1. PROBLEM. - To augment, qualitatively and quantitatively, acquisition of foreign published and documentary material for intelligence purposes.

2. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM. -

a. Present publications procurement efforts in State and CIA are not adequate to the research needs of the IAC.

b. The Foreign Service of the United States provides adequate machinery upon which a program for solving such deficiencies can be based, given adequate fiscal and personnel support. The Foreign Service has been so utilized in the directly comparable effort in geographic intelligence (OLI/M) as well as in the analogous efforts performed for the Departments of Labor, Commerce, <sup>and</sup> Agriculture.

c. The recently approved NSCID-16 provides that "The Director of Central Intelligence shall insure the coordination of the procurement of foreign language publications for intelligence purposes."

d. Achievement of the objectives of NSCID-16, relating to timely identification, cataloging, utilization, and availability of acquired materials, is dependent to an important degree upon effective operation of the procurement system.

3. DISCUSSION. - CIA could assume the publications procurement responsibilities now exercised by the Department's Foreign Publications Branch for the Department of State, the Civilian agencies of the

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Government and the members of the intelligence community. In so doing, it would be the purpose of CIA to achieve the objectives which have been set forth, or that may be established in the future, under the provisions of NSCID-16. Furthermore, CIA could assure that the Department of State will continue to receive the support in the program it has received to date from its Foreign Publications Branch.

A CIA official could be designated to serve in a dual capacity: on the one hand, serving as Special Assistant to the Director of Libraries and Intelligence Acquisition of the Department; and on the other hand as officer in charge of the centralized publications procurement activity in CIA.

Full-time Publications Procurement Officers would be proposed by CIA for assignment overseas as members of the Foreign Service; their salaries <sup>and</sup> expenses would be paid by CIA. They would work under the substantive direction of the Special Assistant, who would also be paid by CIA. The present program of encouraging Chiefs of Mission to designate Ad Hoc Publications Procurement Officers to participate in the program to the extent their other duties permit could be continued under the guidance of the Special Assistant.

The facilities of centralized procurement activity would be available to civilian agency libraries as a supplement to their normal acquisition <sup>facilities</sup> through commercial and exchange channels. In this as well as in other matters, the civilian agencies have access to the advisory committee created by NSCID-16.

CIA would assure necessary processing and appropriate dissemination in Washington.

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4. CONCLUSION. - In the study of the problem, only <sup>three</sup> 3 major solutions presented themselves:

① a. Creating within CIA a new mechanism which would compete, in Washington and in the field, with the existing facilities of State and the Foreign Service.

② b. Augmenting, by additional funds and/or personnel from CIA, the present State and Foreign Service facilities.

③ c. Transferring State activities to CIA, where, under CIA auspices, they can be appropriately augmented to provide adequate guidance to the Foreign Service.

Solution no. 1 has been considered so violative of the spirit of NSCIB-16, and so uneconomical as well, that it has been discarded.

Careful consideration has been given to Solution no. 2. It does not insure the integrity of the program nor economy in its operation. The history of the Department's budgetary limitations make it impracticable to propose the continuing execution of this program by periodic infusions of CIA funds in amounts varying in proportion to the current status of the Department's budget. The resultant separation of authoritative direction and financial responsibility would inevitably create inefficiencies, regardless of the wholehearted cooperation of the two parties. Furthermore, the possibilities of achieving immediate economies from consolidating the program in CIA increase the desirability of discarding solution no. 2.

Therefore, solution no. 3 is considered to be most acceptable. Its implementation is developed in the Annexes to this paper. Among the advantages foreseen from the adoption of solution no. 3 are:

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a. Consolidated record-keeping will afford a better utilization of personnel.

b. Integrating the two publications procurement programs will provide the IAC research components with prompt knowledge of and access to foreign publishing markets, as well as comprehensive indexing of receipts by subject and area, together with reference and bibliographic service.

c. Continuing the use of Foreign Service publications procurement channels abroad will provide an efficient, established channel, discharge the Foreign Service Act responsibilities to civilian agencies (cf. Annex I) and preserve State's administrative responsibility for the Foreign Service.

d. Achieving the objectives in NSCID-16 namely, "co-ordinated effort and central services" in the publications field.

In assuming its responsibilities, CIA agrees to provide world wide coverage through the program (cf. Annex II). The special needs of the State Department will be recognized. In accord with NSCID-16, coordination in procurement will be effected between this program and that of the Service Attaches.

5. ACTION RECOMMENDED. - That the Director of Central Intelligence and the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State approve the implementation of the proposal that CIA undertake to augment the acquisition of foreign published and documentary material for intelligence purposes, by assuming the functions now performed by the Department's Foreign Publications Branch. CIA will supply the

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guidance to the Foreign Service as outlined in this paper together with its Annexes.

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Director of Central  
Intelligence

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Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of State

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CIA LIBRARY COLLECTION FACILITIES

REQUESTING AGENCIES

OLI/P HEADQUARTERS

OPERATIONS

Propriety  
Channel Selection  
Scheduling  
Field Briefing  
Program Planning  
Physical Control  
Training

RECEIVING

Sorting  
Logging  
Allocation  
Reporting  
Dissemination

DC  
LA

DOMESTIC

FR

MLA

USCIB

WE

CENTRAL  
EUROPE

RECEIVING AGENCIES

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**ANNEX II**

**OVERSEAS PROCUREMENT FACILITIES**

**A. Area Coverage**

**1. Full-time procurement officers**

**a. Moscow**

**b. Perimeter**

Hong Kong  
New Delhi  
Cairo  
Belgrade  
Vienna/Frankfurt/Berlin  
Helsinki

**c. Other major publishing areas**

London  
Paris  
Rome  
Scandinavia (Copenhagen)

**2. Part-time procurement officers**

**Ad Hoc PPOs at all other Foreign Service Posts.**

**B. Coordination of US procurement effort within and between foreign markets**

PPOs  
Service Attaches  
Exchange Institutions  
OLI/N Officers  
Commercial

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